

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2-23 and add new claims 24-3 as indicated in the following list of the pending claims.

PENDING CLAIMS

1. (Original) A stent, comprising:

- a) an expandable tubular body having a first end, a second end, a plurality of cylindrical wall sections defining an open-walled structure, and at least one eyelet member having an opening configured to receive a securing member therein to secure a cover to the tubular body; and
- b) a plurality of bar members connected to the tubular body, so that at least one bar member is connected to and extends between longitudinally adjacent wall sections

2-23 (Cancelled)

24. (New) A stent assembly, comprising:

- a. a stent having an expandable tubular body formed of a plurality of interconnected ring sections with at least one of the ring sections having an undulated structure and at least one connecting member extending between the undulated structure and an adjacent ring section; and
- b. a stent cover disposed in part about the stent having an end cover section disposed under at least one undulation of a ring section with an undulated structure and on at least one connecting member extending between the undulation structure and an adjacent ring section.

25. The stent assembly of claim 24 wherein a first ring section having an undulated structure is disposed at one end of the tubular body.
26. The stent assembly of claim 25 wherein a first end cover section of the stent cover is under undulations of the first ring section.
27. The stent assembly of claim 24 wherein a second ring section having an undulated structure is disposed at a second end of the tubular body.
28. The stent assembly of claim 27 wherein a second end cover section of the stent cover is under undulations of the second ring section.
29. The stent assembly of claim 24 wherein at least one connecting member is provided with a cover connector to secure the stent cover to the tubular body.
30. The stent assembly of claim 29 wherein the cover connector has at least one penetrating member for penetrating the stent cover.
31. The stent assembly of claim 30 wherein the cover connector is oriented transverse to a longitudinal axis of the tubular body.
32. The stent assembly of claim 30 wherein the cover connector is oriented parallel to a longitudinal axis of the tubular body.
33. The stent assembly of claim 29 wherein the cover connector has at least one eyelet configured to receive a suture.
34. (New) A stent assembly, comprising:
 - a. a stent having an expandable tubular body formed of a plurality of interconnected ring sections with a first ring section at one end of the tubular body having an undulated structure, a second ring section at another end of the tubular body, at least one additional ring section

- between the first and the second ring sections and at least one connecting member extending between each ring section and an adjacent ring section; and
- b. a stent cover disposed in part about the stent having a first end cover section under undulations of the first ring section of the stent and on the exterior of the connecting member between the first ring section and an adjacent ring section, a second end cover section and an intermediate cover section between the first and second end cover sections.
35. The stent assembly of claim 34 wherein the second end cover section is between undulations of the second ring section and on underlying portions of the second ring section.
36. The stent assembly of claim 34 wherein a plurality of connectors extend between the first ring section to an adjacent intermediate ring section.
37. The stent assembly of claim 34 wherein a plurality of connecting members extend between the second ring section and an adjacent intermediate ring section.